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## POTATO STOCKS

### JANUARY 1, 2005

The 15 major potato States held 238 million cwt of potatoes in storage January 1, 2005, up 2 percent from last year and 3 percent above 2003. Potatoes in storage account for 59 percent of the 2004 fall storage States' production, 1 percentage point above last year. Stocks by type show a smaller percentage of reds and round whites but a larger percentage of long whites and russets than a year ago. Disappearance of 165 million cwt of potatoes is down 3 percent from last year and 6 percent below two years ago. Shrink and loss, at 20.0 million cwt so far this season, is up 15 percent from last year and 10 percent above the same date in 2003. Processors in the 9 major States used 86.0 million cwt of potatoes this season, down 2 percent from a year ago and 7 percent below two years ago. Dehydrating usage accounts for 17.0 million cwt of the total processing, down 8 percent from last year and 13 percent below the same date in 2003.

Western States held 163 million cwt of potatoes in storage on January 1, up 4 percent from last year but 1 percent below two years ago. California's potato stocks are up 33 percent from last year, while Idaho's and Montana's storages both hold 10 percent more. Potato sheds in Oregon are down 8 percent and Washington's and Colorado's sheds both stored 2 percent less than last year. Central States accounted for 59.4 million cwt of potato stocks on January 1, down 4 percent from last year but 13 percent above two years ago. Eastern States stored 15.7 million cwt of potatoes on January 1, up 3 percent from last year and 12 percent above two years ago.

Fall potato stocks in **Colorado's San Luis Valley** totaled 15.0 million cwt as of January 1, 2005, down 2 percent from 15.3 million cwt one year earlier. The latest stocks represented 65 percent of the 2004 crop of 23.15 million cwt. Last year's stocks also represented 65 percent of the 23.65 million cwt produced in 2003. Sales of Colorado's fall potatoes for **table stock** have averaged 69 percent of the production for the 1999-2003 period. The remaining 31 percent of production is used for seed, processing, and home use or is lost through shrinkage.

## CATTLE ON FEED

### JANUARY 1, 2005

The number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in Colorado feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or larger was estimated at 1,080,000 head as of January 1, 2005. The latest inventory was down 2 percent from December 1, 2004 but up 4 percent from the 1,040,000 on feed on January 1, 2004. The inventory included 665,000 steers and steer calves, up 6 percent from the previous year. The number of heifers and heifer calves, at 410,000 head, was unchanged from a year ago. The number of cows and bulls totaled 5,000, also unchanged from last year's number. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 145,000 head of fed cattle during December 2004. This was 6 percent below November 2004 marketings of 155,000 head and 24 percent below a year ago. An estimated 135,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during December, 25 percent below a year ago and 23 percent below November 2004 placements of 175,000. Of the number placed in December, 19 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 29 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 33 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 19 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for December, at 10,000 head, was unchanged from December 2003 and November 2004.

### Cattle on Feed, Colorado and United States, 1,000 Plus Capacity, January 1, 2004-2005

Item	Colorado		United States	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
	<b>1,000 head</b>			
On Feed Dec. 1 prev. yr.	1,060	1,100	11,335	11,344
Placements During Dec.	180	135	1,748	1,834
< 600 pounds	45	25	503	465
600 - 699 Pounds	50	40	529	558
700 - 799 Pounds	60	45	448	489
800 Plus Pounds	25	25	268	322
Marketings During Dec.	190	145	1,740	1,777
Other Disap. During Dec.	10	10	90	92
On Feed Jan 1.	1,040	1,080	11,253	11,309
Steers & Steer Calves	625	665	6,845	7,185
Heifers & Heifer Calves	410	410	4,330	4,046
Cows & Bulls	5	5	78	78

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the **United States** for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.3 million head on January 1, 2005. The inventory was slightly above January 1, 2004 and 6 percent above January 1, 2003. The inventory included 7.19 million steers and steer calves, up 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 64 percent of the total inventory.

Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.05 million head, down 7 percent from January 1, 2004. Placements in feedlots during December totaled 1.83 million, 5 percent above 2003 and 14 percent above 2002. This is the highest placements for the month of December since the series began in 1996. Net placements were 1.74 million. During December, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 465,000, 600-699 pounds were 558,000, 700-799 pounds were 489,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 322,000. Marketings of fed cattle during December totaled 1.78 million, 2 percent above 2003 but 1 percent below 2002. Other disappearance totaled 92,000 during December, 2 percent above 2003 but 7 percent below 2002.

## HAY STOCKS DECEMBER 1, 2004

**United States** stocks of all hay stored on farms totaled 114 million tons on December 1, 2004, up 3 percent from the previous year. Disappearance of hay from May 2004 - December 2004 totaled 69.4 million tons, compared to 68.6 million tons for the same period a year ago. **Colorado** farm and ranch operators had 2.53 million tons of hay on hand as of December 1, 2004, up 37 percent from the 1.84 million tons on hand one year earlier and 63 percent above two years ago. Higher May 1, 2004 stocks improvement in range and pasture conditions and a 2 percent increase in hay production combined to increase total hay supplies.

## GRAIN STOCKS DECEMBER 1, 2004

**All Wheat** stocks in **Colorado's** farm and commercial storage facilities as of December 1, 2004 totaled 32.6 million bushels, down 31 percent from 47.1 million bushels on hand a year earlier. Farm stocks decreased 30 percent to 10.5 million bushels and off-farm stocks were down 31 percent to 22.1 million. All wheat stocks for the **United States** on December 1, 2004 totaled 1.43 billion bushels, down 6 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 531 million bushels, up 8 percent from last December. Off-farm stocks, at 900 million bushels, are down 13 percent from a year ago. The September - November 2004 indicated disappearance is 508 million bushels, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

**Colorado corn** stocks were up 31 percent from the previous year to 97.4 million bushels. Farm stocks were up 43 percent to 67.0 million bushels due to an extremely late harvest, and off-farm stocks increased 10 percent to 30.4 million bushels. **U.S.** corn stocks in all positions on December 1, 2004 totaled 9.45 billion bushels, up 19 percent from December 1, 2003. This is the highest December 1 stocks level since 1987. Of the total stocks, 6.14 billion bushels are stored on farms, up 16 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 3.30 billion bushels, are up 24 percent from a year ago. The September - November 2004 indicated disappearance is 3.32 billion bushels, compared with 3.22 billion bushels during the same period last year.

**Soybeans** stored in all positions on December 1, 2004 totaled 2.30 billion bushels, up 36 percent from December 1, 2003. This is the largest December 1 stocks level on record, exceeding the previous record set in 2001 by 1 percent. Soybean stocks stored on farms totaled 1.30 billion bushels, up 59 percent from a year ago and set a new record high by 5 percent. Off-farm stocks, at 1.00 billion bushels, are up 16 percent from last December. Indicated disappearance for September - November 2004 totaled 949 million bushels, up 1 percent from the same period a year earlier.

**Barley** stocks in the **U.S.** all positions on December 1, 2004 totaled 246 million bushels, up 24 percent from December 1, 2003. On-farm stocks are estimated at 131 million bushels, 34 percent above a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 115 million bushels, are 15 percent above December 2003. **Oats** stored in the **U. S.** all positions on December 1, 2004 totaled 105 million bushels, 12 percent below the stocks on December 1, 2003. Of the total stocks on hand, 60.4 million bushels are stored on farms, down 6 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks totaled 44.6 million bushels, down 19 percent from a year earlier.

**Grain sorghum** stored in all positions on December 1, 2004 totaled 282 million bushels, up 19 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 78.7 million bushels, are up 74 percent from December 1 last year. Off-farm stocks, at 203 million bushels, are up 7 percent from a year earlier. The September - November 2004 indicated disappearance from all positions is 207 million bushels, down 5 percent from the same period in 2003.

**Colorado's on farm storage capacity** was rated at 170 million bushels as of December 1, 2004, unchanged from one year earlier. The **off-farm storage capacity** decreased 3 percent from December 1, 2003 to 114.0 million bushels. On farm capacity for the **United States** increased slightly from a year ago to 11.2 billion bushels but off-farm storage capacity was down fractionally to 8.50 billion bushels as of December 1, 2004.

**Grain Stocks  
Colorado and United States, December 1, 2003-2004**

Grain and Position <sup>1/</sup>	Colorado		United States	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
	<b>1,000 Bushels</b>			
<b>All wheat</b>				
On farms . . .	15,000	10,500	491,925	531,020
Off farms . . .	32,130	22,110	1,028,359	899,718
Total . . . . .	47,130	32,610	1,520,284	1,430,738
<b>Corn</b>				
On farms . . .	47,000	67,000	5,286,000	6,144,000
Off farms . . .	27,470	30,350	2,667,775	3,304,798
Total . . . . .	74,470	97,350	7,953,775	9,448,798
<b>Barley</b>				
On farms . . .	<sup>2/</sup>	<sup>2/</sup>	97,200	130,700
Off farms . . .	8,630	<sup>2/</sup>	100,679	115,476
Total . . . . .	<sup>2/</sup>	<sup>2/</sup>	197,879	246,176
<b>Oats</b>				
On farms . . .	<sup>2/</sup>	<sup>2/</sup>	64,400	60,400
Off farms . . .	107	115	54,900	44,563
Total . . . . .	<sup>2/</sup>	<sup>2/</sup>	119,300	104,963
<b>Sorghum</b>				
On farms . . .	<sup>2/</sup>	<sup>2/</sup>	45,200	78,700
Off farms . . .	1,685	950	190,736	203,182
Total . . . . .	<sup>2/</sup>	<sup>2/</sup>	235,936	281,882
<b>Soybeans</b>				
On farms . . .	<sup>3/</sup>	<sup>3/</sup>	820,000	1,300,000
Off farms . . .	<sup>2/</sup>	<sup>2/</sup>	868,653	1,004,880
Total . . . . .	<sup>2/</sup>	<sup>2/</sup>	1,688,653	2,304,880

<sup>1/</sup> Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.  
<sup>2/</sup> Not published separately.  
<sup>3/</sup> Not estimated.

## WINTER WHEAT SEEDINGS 2005 CROP

**Colorado** producers seeded 2.65 million acres of winter wheat during the fall of 2004 for harvest in 2005, up 15 percent from the 2.30 million acres seeded for the 2004 crop. Planting began early in some areas as producers took advantage of late summer moisture. Germination and emergence was good to excellent putting most of the crop in mostly good condition for entering the winter. Normal temperatures and moisture conditions have prevailed since seeding. As usual, prospects for the 2005 crop will be heavily dependent on winter and spring weather.

**United States** winter wheat seeded area for 2005 is expected to total 41.6 million acres, down 4 percent from 2004. Approximate class acreage breakdowns are: Hard Red Winter, 30.5 million; Soft Red Winter, 6.6 million; and White Winter, 4.5 million.

**Winter Wheat  
Area Seeded, 2003-2005 Crops 1/**

State	Crop of			05/04
	2003	2004	2005	
	<b>1,000 Acres</b>			<b>%</b>
Alabama	150	120	120	100
Arizona	4	5	5	100
Arkansas	700	670	240	36
California	740	560	500	89
<b>Colorado</b>	<b>2,600</b>	<b>2,300</b>	<b>2,650</b>	<b>115</b>
Delaware	50	50	50	100
Florida	20	18	20	111
Georgia	380	330	290	88
Idaho	760	750	770	103
Illinois	850	920	650	71
Indiana	460	450	360	80
Iowa	25	28	25	89
Kansas	10,500	10,000	10,100	101
Kentucky	500	530	460	87
Louisiana	155	180	130	72
Maryland	165	160	150	94
Michigan	680	660	650	98
Minnesota	25	27	20	74
Mississippi	150	160	110	69
Missouri	960	1,050	700	67
Montana	1,900	1,900	2,150	113
Nebraska	1,900	1,850	1,850	100
Nevada	7	6	7	117
New Jersey	31	28	28	100
New Mexico	500	490	490	100
New York	130	105	120	114
North Carolina	530	600	580	97
North Dakota	130	245	260	106
Ohio	1,060	920	840	91
Oklahoma	6,700	6,200	5,800	94
Oregon	970	820	870	106
Pennsylvania	175	140	180	129
South Carolina	200	190	180	95
South Dakota	1,650	1,650	1,500	91
Tennessee	430	400	290	73
Texas	6,600	6,300	5,800	92
Utah	160	130	135	104
Virginia	210	210	220	105
Washington	1,850	1,800	1,900	106
West Virginia	12	8	7	88
Wisconsin	205	240	200	83
Wyoming	160	150	160	107
<b>United States</b>	<b>45,384</b>	<b>43,350</b>	<b>41,567</b>	<b>96</b>

1/ Total area seeded for all purposes.

## WINTER WHEAT VARIETIES 2005 CROP

**Akron** continued to be the most popular variety seeded in Colorado and was planted on 20.1 percent of the acreage for the 2005 crop compared with 19.8 percent of the acreage a year earlier. **Tam 107** moved up to the second most popular variety from third place the last several years and was planted on 10.5 percent of the acreage for the 2005 crop, down slightly from 10.7 percent for the 2004 crop. **Prowers and Prowers 99** combined for a third place ranking with 8.3 percent of the seeded acreage compared to 4.0 percent last year. **Prairie Red** fell two positions to a fourth place ranking for the 2005 crop by accounting for 6.7 percent of the acres seeded compared with 14.8 percent of the acres a year earlier. **Trego**, the first hard white wheat to achieve a significant ranking of varieties in Colorado, advanced one position to the fifth leading variety for the 2005 crop by accounting for 6.3 percent of the acreage seeded compared with 5.7 percent last year. The top five varieties accounted for 51.9 percent of the acreage seeded for the 2005 crop. The top five varieties seeded for the 2004 crop accounted for 60.0 percent of the total acreage.

**Above**, a variety first available to producers for the 2003 crop, claimed a higher percentage than the previous year but fell one position to a sixth place ranking by being planted on 6.1 percent of the acreage, up from 5.7 percent last year. **Jagalene** and **Yumar** shared the seventh place ranking for the 2005 crop, each with 4.4 percent of the acres seeded. This is the first year Jagalene made the top ten with only 1.2 percent last year. Yumar placed seventh last year with 3.6 percent. **Ankor**, also in the top ten for the first time, took ninth place for the 2005 crop with a 4.1 percent showing compared to 1.0 percent for 2004. **Lamar** placed tenth with 3.3 percent of the seeded acres for the 2005 crop, down from ninth place but up from 2.6 percent last year. These 10 varieties represented 74.2 percent of the state's total acreage seeded for the 2005 crop. In 2004 the top ten varieties accounted for 76.6 percent of the total seeded acreage.

**Winter Wheat: Percent planted By Variety,  
Colorado, 2000-2005 1/**

Variety	2000 Crop	2001 Crop	2002 Crop	2003 Crop	2004 Crop	2005 Crop
	<b>Percent</b>					
Akron	24.3	24.4	25.3	22.3	19.8	20.1
Tam 107	33.6	24.9	13.6	13.0	10.7	10.5
Prowers & 99	2.3	4.0	5.9	3.9	4.0	8.3
Prairie Red	3.1	11.5	13.9	16.0	14.8	6.7
Trego	---	0.3	2.4	3.3	5.7	6.3
Above	---	---	---	3.8	5.8	6.1
Jagalene	---	---	---	---	1.2	4.4
Yumar	3.0	4.6	4.8	3.6	3.6	4.4
Ankor	---	---	---	---	1.0	4.1
Lamar	5.1	4.4	3.6	3.3	2.6	3.3
Jaggar	2.1	2.9	6.7	7.7	8.9	2.9
Deloris	---	---	---	---	---	2.0
Stanton	---	---	---	---	0.5	1.8
Tam 110	0.8	1.2	2.3	2.3	1.0	1.4
Harry	---	---	---	---	---	1.4
Other 2/	25.7	21.8	21.5	20.8	20.5	16.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

1/ Dashes indicate either none or minor amount reported.

2/ Includes minor and older varieties that have become less popular.

## MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in the **20 major States** during December totaled 12.4 billion pounds, up 1.0 percent from December 2003. November revised production, at 11.9 billion pounds, was up 1.2 percent from November 2003. The November revision represented an increase of 5 million pounds from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,602 pounds for December, 6 pounds above December 2003. The number of milk cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.76 million head, 47,000 head more than December 2003, but 4,000 head less than November 2004.

Milk production in the **U.S.** during the October-December quarter totaled 41.9 billion pounds, up 0.9 percent from the October-December quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.02 million head, 7,000 head more than the same period last year.

Milk production in **Colorado** during the last three months of 2004 totaled 553 million pounds, up 2.4 percent from the last quarter of 2003. The average number of cows for the last quarter of 2004, at 102,000 head, increased 3 percent from the last quarter of 2003. Production per cow averaged 5,422 pounds for the last three months of 2004 and 5,456 in 2003.

### Milk Production, October-December, 2003-2004

Item	Unit	2003	2004
<b>Colorado:</b>			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u> . . . . .	1,000 Head	99	102
Production Per Cow . . .	Pounds	5,421	5,454
Production <u>2/</u> . . . . .	Mil. Lbs.	540	553
<b>United States:</b>			
Milk Cows <u>1/</u> . . . . .	1,000 Head	9,011	9,018
Production Per Cow . . .	Pounds	4,609	4,646
Production <u>2/</u> . . . . .	Mil. Lbs.	41,532	41,895

1/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

## SPECIAL ISSUES

The Annual Crop Summary was released on January 12, 2005 but there was not sufficient space in this issue of AG UPDATE to include the final crop summary for 2004. The complete USDA report is available on the Worldwide Web at:

<http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

### UPCOMING REPORTS

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Worldwide Web at: <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>

- Jan. 21 - Livestock Slaughter
- Jan. 24 - Cold Storage
- Jan. 24 - Chickens & Eggs
- Jan. 25 - Fruit Crops - Annual
- Jan. 28 - Cattle Inventory
- Jan. 28 - Sheep and Goats Inventory
- Jan. 28 - Vegetables - Annual
- Jan. 31 - Agricultural Prices

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